

Appendix C. Draft Management Plan

Travelers' Rest State Park Management Direction

DRAFT: June 16, 2003

Historic Context

The Lolo area has been a crossroads of travel, culture, and commerce for hundreds of years. Located at the nexus of major American Indian trails, it is no surprise that the Lewis and Clark expedition was led here by a Shoshone guide in the fall of 1805. Camping along the banks of a stream they named "Travellers Rest Creek", the party spent three days in preparation for an arduous journey over the Bitterroot mountains. Enamored with the place, they returned on their eastward journey in 1806, led by a small group of Nez Perce. Again they rested, spending four days before splitting the party to explore more of what is now Montana. Because of the decisions made at Travelers' Rest camp, the location is one of the most significant along the length of the Lewis and Clark Trail. Archaeology completed in 2002 discovered physical evidence of the expedition, furthering the status of this unique and wonderful place.

Before and after these explorers stopped here, this area was used as a gathering place for many Indian tribes. The Salish, Nez Perce, and others lived, gathered, and hunted in the north part of the Bitterroot valley for millennia. It can be argued that this area has been the hub of history of western North America. Preservation of a portion of this historic location provides a unique opportunity to discuss the people, plants, and animals that make up the past, present, and future of western Montana.

The Vision

Travelers' Rest State Park will be a place that engages the imagination, the intellect and the hearts of visitors and local residents alike.

In order to attain this vision, Travelers' Rest State Park must complete the site and program development outlined in this document in order to provide an interactive, accurate, safe, and dynamic experience for the visitors. This narrative generally describes the various facilities and activities that are depicted on the Conceptual Master Plan (see Appendix B of the Draft EA for Travelers' Rest Management Direction), prepared by Kent Watson and Associates, Landscape Architects. The plan more or less depicts the ultimate park; however, it should be understood that the developments would be built as conditions and funding allow.

When this development is complete, visitors will access the park from U.S. Highway 12 via a road easement into the northern boundary of the park property. Well-placed highway signs will direct the visitors to the park entrance. The entrance to the access road and the park will be welcoming and attractively landscaped, using native vegetation. The 22'-wide paved access road will meander within a 60' right-of-way to the northwest corner of the park boundary. The road will not be fenced to maintain the rural and open feel that currently exists in the area. Small groups of native trees and shrubs (ponderosa pine, chokecherry, mock orange, e.g.) will be

placed along the roadway to provide shade and aesthetic appeal. A pedestrian path will be constructed parallel to the road to accommodate foot and bicycle traffic. The access road will lead to the parking lot, which will also be paved. The parking lot will be a one-way loop that will provide parking for up to 75 passenger cars, six tour buses, and 10-20 recreational vehicles at one time with additional space for overflow parking. Again, native shrubbery and trees (black cottonwood, ponderosa pine, e.g.) will be placed on the edge of the parking area to provide shade for visitors.¹ A pet area will be developed on an island in the parking area. Pets will be restricted to this area of the park.

Other visitor amenities will be developed in the area around the parking lot. Restrooms with flush toilets, drinking fountains, picnic areas, and informational and directional signage will be placed in convenient, safe, and appropriate locations.

Some visitor amenities must also be provided for visitors on the south side of the park near the administrative offices. A vault toilet, drinking fountain, a kiosk to provide interpretation and shade, a meeting room, and potentially a small visitor information center will be needed to accommodate visitors who want to spend more time on the site.

Interpretive and education programs are the backbone of the visitor experience at Travelers' Rest State Park and we will develop a comprehensive interpretive plan in the summer of 2003. Using the four identified storylines (Appendix I, Program Philosophy), a variety of delivery methods identified in the interpretive plan will be used to tell these stories.

- Interpretive Signs. Three to five, small wood, open-sided, covered kiosks (approximately 24' feet in diameter) will be erected between the parking lot and the riparian area.² Interpretive signs will be placed in these kiosks. Interpretive signs will also be used at the campsite overlook.
- Information Center. A larger kiosk (approximately 36' in diameter) will act as a visitor information center. This kiosk will be enclosed, and will require electricity. In this structure, visitors may ask questions, find area and park information, pay day-use fees, and purchase educational materials.
- Self-guided trails.³ A non-motorized trail will begin at the edge of the parking lot. This trail will be a minimum 6' wide to meet ADA standards and will be constructed of gravel, granite, or some aggregate material (not asphalt or concrete). The trail will pass through the curtain of cottonwoods, a physical reminder to visitors that they are passing from the present into the past. The trail will wind through the riparian area⁴, over a

¹ Some of these trees should be large enough to provide some shade immediately, while others will be smaller and allowed to mature.

² As designed by the U.S. Forest Service. These kiosks will have hard surface floor (concrete or asphalt).

³ All trails in Travelers' Rest State Park will be non-motorized. Access will be restricted to foot and wheelchair travel unless specific segments of the trail provide a direct link to other non-motorized trails in the area. The width of those segments of the trail would be widened accordingly.

⁴ There are two overflow channels in this area that will need to be bridged. Each of these bridges will be less than 25 feet in length.

pedestrian bridge⁵, circle the historic campsite, and up to a bench that overlooks the campsite, before looping back to the bridge.⁶ An interpretive brochure will accompany this self-guided trail.

- Guided tours. Both paid and volunteer staff will provide guided tours of the site. These tours may follow the main trail, or a series of short, secondary paths where visitors may learn more about the history of this area.
- Living history and demonstration. Small areas will be cleared adjacent to the main trail, secondary paths, and near the parking lot to provide interpretive stations for presentation areas for a variety of living history performers and people who can demonstrate the skills and crafts utilized throughout time. Because some of these demonstrations may require fire or high impact activities (cooking, fire starting, dancing, e.g.), some of the areas near the parking lot will be hard surface. The plan includes a small amphitheater to be constructed on site for use with living history, demonstration, staff interpretive programs, and performing arts.
- Interpretive programs. Paid and volunteer staff will develop many interpretive programs to impart the vast history of the area. These programs will be conducted at a variety of locations, including the interpretive kiosks adjacent to the parking lot, another kiosk located near the historic overlook, or the amphitheater.
- Lectures and presentations. There are many interesting and scholarly aspects related to the history of Lewis and Clark, and the associated storylines of Travelers' Rest. Venues will be provided for presentation of these ideas to the public or to other researchers. The amphitheater, visitor information center, or administrative area can all provide space for these types of activities.
- Education programs and class field trips. Providing relevant educational resources to area schools is also a critical component of park development and sustainability. In addition to the interpretive tools described above, educational programs will be developed to meet curriculum guidelines for area schools. These programs will be presented on the site and in classroom space in the administrative area.
- A resource library. Travelers' Rest Preservation and Historic Association (TRPHA) is currently developing a resource library of materials related to the history of the area for use by staff and volunteers. Plans are to develop this library to be a resource also to visitors to the park.

The above listed tools and locations will be used to deliver the interpretive messages during the Lewis and Clark bicentennial in 2003-2006. Because of the significance of the site to the Lewis and Clark Expedition, that story, and the associated history of American Indians in the area, will always be an important component of the programming at Travelers' Rest State Park. In order to engage visitors long-term, other programs will be developed that talk about other historical

⁵ Like the kiosks, plans are underway to construct a bridge made of small material as designed by the U.S. Forest Service. This suspension bridge would be 120-140 feet in length and 6 feet wide to accommodate ADA standards, as well as management and emergency response requirements.

⁶ There is an existing and growing network of non-motorized trails in the Lolo and Bitterroot area. The trails at Travelers' Rest State Park should become a part of that network.

aspects of the area, specifically natural history and the European settlement of the area. The foundation for these programs will be developed during the bicentennial years, with more of an emphasis placed on them in the post-bicentennial era. Some ideas for interpretation and development for these programs includes:

- A series of paths and educational materials to illustrate the natural ecosystems (riparian, grassland) on the existing park property and easements.⁷
- Educational programs focused on the ecosystems.
- A native vegetation restoration and education program, centered around the area south of the administrative offices. This area would be used to showcase plants native to the area, as well as discuss their importance to Lewis and Clark, Native Americans, and the European settlers.
- Technology augmented programs. (I.e., a computer lab with information specific to the stories told at Travelers' Rest).
- A "Homestead Museum." This would require acquisition of the land located immediately southwest of the existing park boundary, currently owned by Mr. Ralph Kulberg, and renovation of the historic barn located on that property. Coupled with the adjacent existing acreage slated for the native vegetation program, this will provide a unique area for a variety of programming options.
- Community events. The park may eventually provide place for community picnics, reunions, and other community events.

It is also important to note that Travelers' Rest State Park provides many recreational opportunities to residents and visitors. Fishing access to Lolo Creek, bird and other wildlife viewing opportunities, and a place for quiet strolls on designated walkways are all acceptable and encouraged uses of Travelers' Rest State Park.

Park Establishment

In 2001, The Conservation Fund purchased 15 acres believed to be the heart of the historic Lewis and Clark Travelers' Rest campsite located on the outskirts of present day Lolo, Montana from the Pat and Ernie Deschamps family. The property was donated to the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP) and designated a State Park by the FWP Commission in March, 2001. Unable to commit the resources necessary to manage, develop, and interpret this site of national historic importance, FWP entered into a long-term management agreement (see Appendix II) with the Travelers' Rest Preservation and Heritage Association (TRPHA), passing management and financial responsibility to TRPHA. These two organizations will work collaboratively to prepare the park for significant visitation during the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial, but also to establish a framework that will ensure the long-term viability of the park for future generations. Additionally, TRPHA and FWP have chosen to work in concert with a variety of other organizations to create an enriching, sustainable, multi-faceted and multi-cultural experience for visitors and residents alike.

⁷ Additional properties may be acquired that would augment this system and link Travelers' Rest State Park to existing or future non-motorized trails.

Much of the planning for Travelers' Rest State Park began before the property was in public ownership. In 1999, a design charette for the Lolo community was held to identify opportunities and obstacles facing this unincorporated community located just eight miles from one of Montana's major population centers. During this process, several opportunities (economic, cultural, aesthetic) were identified due to Lolo being the site of Travelers' Rest. There were also some obstacles and concerns identified at the same time (local infrastructure to support increased tourism, creating a sustainable visitation environment, creating historic, educational, and recreational opportunities for local residents and visitors). At that time the actual location of the Travelers' Rest campsite was suspected, but not known.

Following preliminary archaeological work, preservation of the site, and state park designation, TRPHA and FWP set out to build on the 1999 charette in creating site and program plans for the park. In June of 2002, a diverse planning team was brought together to create a vision for development, education and interpretation. In addition to TRPHA and FWP, the team included Lolo community residents, representatives from the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation (and its Travelers' Rest Chapter), the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the Montana Community Development Corporation, the University of Montana, Missoula County, and members of the tourism and education community. The charge of this group was to arrive at a list of site and program recommendations to create an atmosphere at Travelers' Rest State Park that will not only promote visitation, but will also encourage park users to return.

The Opportunity

TRPHA, FWP and all the partners associated with Travelers' Rest State Park stand at the threshold of a unique opportunity. Having identified the historic campsite at the dawn of the bicentennial commemoration focuses a great deal of attention and visitation to the Lolo area. Finding physical evidence of the Lewis and Clark expedition provides immediate credibility as a significant site for visitors along the Lewis and Clark Trail.

With this credibility and enthusiasm, it is imperative that the organizations use this energy and attention to create a sustainable and dynamic operation that is a benefit to area residents and visitors while remaining financially sustainable.

This unique public/private collaboration should also continue to develop partnerships that will assist with site development, program creation, education curriculum development, and event planning. All parties involved should keep in mind that this relationship can be used as a model for similar situations in the future.

Because the very heart of the development of Travelers' Rest is a dynamic and engaging interpretive and education program, planning must also have a dynamic component while the site and programs are being developed. It is the intent of this Management Direction to act as an interim operating document until a long-range Management Plan can be developed. The long-range Management Plan will be developed as the attention from the bicentennial commemoration begins to wane. Due to the dynamic nature of this document, it should be reviewed at least annually and be updated when necessary.

Roles and Responsibilities

Travelers' Rest State Park is a part of the Montana State Park system and activities there must be consistent with any land owned by FWP and managed by the Parks Division.

FWP will provide technical assistance to TRPHA in the management of the site. This will include review of site and construction plans, review of programmatic objectives, assurance of public involvement, and environmental and cultural compliance.

FWP will also provide assistance in the form of labor, maintenance, minor supplies and equipment, when feasible from a financial and personnel standpoint. The concept of shared resources is integral to the success of the Park.

TRPHA will assume day-to-day management and operations of Travelers' Rest State Park. This responsibility will also include future site and programmatic development to meet the goals of TRPHA and FWP. TRPHA will manage the site in accordance with this document, the management agreement (Appendix II) and the statutes for Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks.

Because of this unique management arrangement, TRPHA has been able to develop additional partnerships with the U.S. Forest Service, the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, the Bureau of Land Management, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, and others. The continued use of these partnerships will be critical to meeting the goals established by TRPHA and FWP.

Public Involvement

Public involvement in the preservation, development and interpretation of Travelers' Rest actually began long before FWP had acquired the site and has been an ongoing part of the planning process for Travelers' Rest State Park. In April of 1999, the Society of Landscape Architects and the Missoula County Office of Planning and Grants hosted a design charrette for the community of Lolo. Over 100 people had input into this process, including community leaders, local school children, professional planners and landscape architects, and interested members of the Lolo and western Montana community. Although the broad scope of this two-day session was the future of Lolo, much of the discussion focused on the inclusion of the Travelers' Rest site (which had been identified in 1998) as a major recreational, economic, cultural, and educational resource for Lolo. The outcomes of that charrette, while never coalesced into a completed document, laid the foundation for future planning when the site was acquired in March, 2001.

The second phase of significant public involvement took place during the acquisition of the 15-acre property from the Deschamps family in early 2001. The Environmental Analysis public review generated 65 responses from interested parties, all of whom were in support of the acquisition and preservation of the site, as well as public access and interpretation.

The next phase of public participation came in the spring of 2002, when FWP purchased 10 additional acres on the north side of Lolo Creek and planned for the anticipated acquisition of a 4.5 acre parcel that abuts the southwest corner of the original 15 acre Deschamps property.

During this public review process, 17 comments were received. Fifteen of these favored the acquisition and one favored it with concerns about private property rights. There was one dissenting opinion, from a landowner who wished to develop property overlooking the site, and who was facing some opposition for the proposed developments potential impacts to the historic viewshed associated with Travelers' Rest.

The planning team developed a conceptual Master Site Plan (see Appendix B of the Draft EA for Travelers' Rest Management Direction). This plan allows for necessary development and provides an appropriate context for an interactive and meaningful interpretive and education program. The planning teams also helped craft a program philosophy (Appendix I). This philosophy will assist staff and volunteers in developing program direction and content. These plans were brought before the public in a variety of ways. Two public meetings were held at the park in September of 2002. Over 20 individuals attended the meetings, and offered comments on the site plan and proposed program philosophy. The comments were generally positive and dealt mostly with specifics of the plan that would be best addressed in a MEPA process. The proposed site and program directions have also been used at presentations in Missoula, Lolo, and Helena, where audience members have viewed the plans and had opportunity for comment. Additionally, the plans have been available to all park visitors since early August of 2002. In all, over 500 individual copies of the plans have been distributed to interested parties to date.

Planning Process Outcomes

The planning team decided on four major interpretive and educational themes at Travelers' Rest State Park; the significance of the site to the Lewis and Clark Expedition during its stays here in 1805 and 1806; the significance of the immediate area to the variety of Native American tribes who utilized the area as a campsite and crossroads for centuries; the European settlement of the area in the wake of the Lewis and Clark journey; and the natural history of the area, which was critical to the success and survival of indigenous people, Lewis and Clark and the pioneers. Each of these themes can be told in the context of those days in 1805 and 1806 when the explorers and their party chose the banks of "Travellers Rest" (now Lolo) Creek as a place of rest and preparation. In order to create this atmosphere, we must establish certain tenets that will guide all aspects of site and program development:

1. The landscape will be used wherever possible to tell the stories.
2. Although significant visitation is expected during the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial commemoration, development of park amenities (parking, restrooms, etc.) should not be built to accommodate the "worst case scenario" - but built to fit into the landscape so that management and maintenance costs can be sustained beyond the Bicentennial.
3. The cultural and natural resources of the park will be protected and the park will be safe, clean, accessible and well maintained.
4. The park is an economic benefit to the Lolo area and a source of pride to residents. The park will be a good neighbor to surrounding residents and an integral part of the community.
5. Interpretation and education must be intricately interwoven into all program development.
6. The park will be managed in a way that is beneficial to wildlife native to the area.

7. Interpretive and education programs will integrate the different cultural and historical influences of the area. These programs will engage the intellect, the spirit, and the imagination.

Following the public review of this document and planned development, there will be additional planning. In the summer of 2003, TRPHA and FWP will develop an interpretive plan that will outline the type of programs that will be offered at the Park, the delivery methods to be utilized, and outline objectives to meet the program goals put forth in this document. During this process, the site plan will be meshed with the interpretive plan so that these two components compliment each other.

Current Buildings and Use

When the property was purchased from the Deschamps family, it included the existing ranch house and several out buildings. Many of these buildings are used for Park operations.

The house is currently in use as the administrative office building for TRPHA. The house has been reviewed by FWP engineers for adherence to building codes. Minor renovations may be needed to bring the building into compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The house is generally in good repair, although it is likely new shingles will be needed in the coming five years. A report from FWP engineering staff is expected in early spring, 2003.

Associated with the house are two small outbuildings, one located north of the house, the other to the west (between the house and garage). These buildings will be used for storage of equipment necessary for operations (interpretive materials, gift store items, tools, signs, etc.). Each of these buildings is in good repair and will not likely be used for public access.

The garage has been utilized as a visitor greeting area. Plans are underway to renovate the garage in 2003 to improve the visitor services area and to provide current and future meeting and classroom space. This building, and the proposed renovation, have also been reviewed by FWP engineering staff and a design for this project that addresses public health and safety has been completed by FWP Design and Construction Bureau. TRPHA is developing a resource library that may eventually be located in this building.

The large barn on the property will be used for maintenance and equipment storage. It is anticipated that TRPHA will need to acquire mowers, snow removal, trail maintenance and fencing equipment and supplies, and other items necessary to maintain and groom the park. These items will be housed in this building.

There are other various structures on the grounds that are proposed for removal. There is a small weathered shed at the edge of the bench overlooking Lolo Creek and a corral and located to the south of this structure. Removal of these structures would open up the area and make it much more inviting and relevant to the visitor. This is slated to take place in the spring or summer of 2003.

Rules, Regulations and Management Concerns

Animal Control – Pets are allowed only in designated areas. All pets are required to be on leashes not over 10 feet long.

Motor Vehicles – Motorized vehicles are allowed only on the roads and in the parking areas of Travelers' Rest State Park.

Night Closures – Travelers' Rest is located adjacent to a residential area and must respect those neighbors. Day use is appropriate, with hours posted by season. Normal hours will not exceed dawn to dusk, although special events may extend beyond those hours on occasion.

It may be necessary to restrict or prohibit access to some areas or during specific times to protect culturally or biologically sensitive areas.

Noxious Weeds – Travelers' Rest State Park will be added to the Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks Region 2 (west central Montana) Weed Management Plan.

Fees – Fees will be charged in accordance with the management agreement.

Other rules and regulations will be developed as the Park develops. In order to develop these rules and regulations, TRPHA will refer to the statutes for Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks, FWP State Park Management Policies, FWP Parks Department personnel, and the Guide to Montana's State Parks, Fishing Access Sites and Wildlife Management Areas.

Access, Acquisition and Site Development

Travelers' Rest needs to be developed and maintained in a manner that uses the natural setting of the park to enhance the programmatic objectives. The historic integrity of the park must be preserved while providing appropriate access and opportunities for local residents and area visitors.

In 2002, FWP purchased 10 acres on the north side of Lolo Creek adjoining the original 15-acre parcel. This property was acquired for the express purpose of developing the main park access from U.S. Highway 12 and providing the bulk of visitor services in a manner that protects the integrity of the historic campsite location. Administrative access would remain at the current park entrance on Mormon Creek Road. It is possible that pedestrian and recreation access could also be directed to the Mormon Creek access.

In 2003, FWP will receive a conservation easement on an additional 10-acres adjoining the tract north of Lolo Creek. The purpose of this easement will be to construct secondary trails that will be utilized to disperse activity during peak use times as well as serve as an area to provide education and interpretation for the natural history portion of park programming.

There is a 4.5-acre parcel at the southwest corner of the original park property that is owned by Mr. Ralph Kulberg. Mr. Kulberg purchased the property in order to protect it from development.

He has indicated that should evidence be found to support the theory that the park encompassed the historic campsite, Mr. Kulberg would like to transfer ownership of the property to Travelers' Rest State Park. Conversations are ongoing with Mr. Kulberg and this property may be acquired during 2003. Possible uses of this property include education programs, interpretive programs focused on the agricultural settlement of the area, and conversion of the historic barn located on this property to a museum and education center.

With these properties under the ownership of FWP and the management of TRPHA, the partner organizations believe they can adequately manage, interpret and preserve the site. Additional properties may become available and each opportunity will be assessed as it arises. More land for recreational access and opportunity, access to existing non-motorized trails, for fish and wildlife habitat protection, and as a buffer to the historic area could be beneficial in the long term.

Funding and Staffing Requirements

In 2002, TRPHA entered into a joint capital campaign (Montana's Lewis and Clark Legacy Campaign) to provide the bulk of funding necessary for site and program development. The other partners in this venture are the Pompey's Pillar Historical Association, the Montana Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Commission, the Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center Foundation, and the Montana Historical Society. TRPHA expects to receive \$1 million from this campaign by 2006, with specific funding objectives (Appendix III).

Ongoing maintenance and operations funding will continue to be funded by TRPHA from a variety of sources. The organization will continue to develop a diverse funding stream including state and federal agencies, private contributions, entrance fees, and in-kind contributions.

TRPHA received funding from the Rural Community Assistance Program of the U.S. Forest Service. This appropriation assures operations through the end of 2003. It is expected that entrance fees, program fees, and individual contributions will fund the bulk of day-to-day operations in 2005 and 2006. Therefore a critical need is to find the necessary funding for operations in 2004 (expected to be \$150,000-\$200,000). The development of an endowment to ensure operations funding after 2006 is also a critical need in the next five years.

The organization currently employs an Executive Director, a Project Associate and an Interpretive Specialist (a position funded jointly by FWP and TRPHA). The individuals who fill these positions are responsible for the daily operations of TRPHA and Travelers' Rest State Park including fundraising, planning, community outreach, education and interpretive program development, and administration. Additional interpretive, seasonal, and maintenance staff will be added as needed and as funding allows.

Volunteers will continue to play a significant role at the park. Interpreters, groundskeepers, custodians, greeters, and gift shop staff should be largely comprised of volunteer or stipend rewarded staff.

While other future staffing needs are not clearly defined at this time, it may be desirable for TRPHA to add a part-time fundraising staff member during the next 1-3 years, should funding permit.

Current Operating Environment

Travelers' Rest State Park opened to the public for the first time in May, 2002. Currently, all administrative and visitor services take place on the south side of Lolo Creek. The park is accessed from U.S. Highway 93 and Mormon Creek Road. A small parking area has been established and may be improved with gravel in 2003. Portable toilets are now in use, but TRPHA has funding to install a vault toilet in 2003. This would not only address visitor comforts and convenience in the short-term, but provide long-term restroom facilities for park users.

The historic campsite is exposed to the sun, so plans are underway to construct a covered kiosk near the campsite to provide shade and interpretive area. This kiosk is identical to the interpretive kiosks to be constructed on the south side of Lolo Creek. Again, this development addresses immediate and long-term needs for shelter and an interpretive area in this location.

Interpretative opportunities are expanding at Travelers' Rest. A self-guided interpretive path opened in the spring of 2003. Paid and volunteer staff provide regularly scheduled interpretive programs for visitors year round. The park also offers a weekly presenter series during the summer and special events around the anniversary dates of the Lewis and Clark stops at the site. TRPHA also offers an active outreach program for schools and community groups, providing interpretation and information about Travelers' Rest.

A project is underway to convert the original garage into a visitor information area, bookshop and gift store, exhibit space, and meeting space. Although visitor information and sales of educational materials will eventually be moved to the north side of the creek, this space can continue to act as meeting and exhibit space into the future.

Future Development

Timeline and Triggers

It is critical that site development proceed as quickly as possible so that the park will be prepared to provide services and programs for visitors during the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial. It is also imperative that the constructions parallel program creation. While it is the intent of the partners to use the land to tell the story wherever possible, it is also necessary to provide comfort, safety, and educational opportunities for our visitors. Future development is dependent on funding and future planning and design elements. It is the intent to re-locate the entrance and visitor amenities to the north side location by the spring of 2005, to coincide with the heaviest visitation related to the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial. Timelines for this development are dynamic, but completion of certain steps will trigger succeeding steps. The sequence of events:

1. Complete design of pedestrian bridge over Lolo Creek.
2. Begin design of access road, parking lot, restrooms, water supply.
3. Complete interpretive plan. Identify elements of interpretive plan that will effect location of kiosks, trails, etc.

4. Begin design of kiosks, trails, and interpretive signs.
5. Secure funding for bridge construction.
6. Begin construction of access road, parking lot, restrooms, water supply.
7. Begin bridge construction.
8. Begin construction of main trail⁸, interpretive areas, kiosks.
9. Complete construction of access roads, parking lot, restrooms, water supply.
10. Complete construction of kiosks and interpretive signs.
11. Complete trail construction.
12. Complete bridge construction.
13. Add directional and informational signs

Program Development

Interpretive and education programming will be the backbone of Travelers' Rest State Park. A diverse, multi-disciplinary program will provide a foundation of sustainability for the organization.

TRPHA and FWP have jointly funded an Interpretive Specialist to oversee program development at the park. Additionally, TRPHA has received funding to hire a Salish tribal member to develop interpretive programs related to Salish and other Native American use in the area.

A comprehensive interpretive plan will be developed during summer and fall of 2003. This plan will not only outline which delivery methods are best suited for each of the stories on the site, but also create a timeline for creation of the elements of the interpretive plan. Once completed, the interpretive plan will be added as an addendum to this document.

Future Operating Environment

Much of the future operating environment has been outlined in the "Vision" section of this document. Once the entrance has been moved to the Highway 12 location, the administrative offices will remain in their current location. Staff and administrative access will remain from Mormon Creek Road. Meeting areas and classrooms will also remain in the existing administrative area.

Public access will be from Highway 12. Interpretive and education programs will take place at designated areas across the site. The bulk of visitor services will be located on the north side of Lolo Creek, with minimal services available near the administrative area. This approach will leave the historic campsite area largely undeveloped, allowing visitors to experience Travelers' Rest as it was 200 years ago – and beyond.

⁸ It is important that the archaeological record be preserved on the site. There is no indication of important cultural resources in the area north of Lolo Creek. TRPHA and FWP will work with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) to preserve the integrity of the archaeological record in the historic campsite – and at all locations on the site.

Summary

This unique partnership provides great opportunity for creating a public/private management model for Montana. The critical aspect will be developing the infrastructure, programs, and visitor experience on a very short timeline to prepare for the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Commemoration. TRPHA, FWP, and other partners are committed to the vision and the future of Travelers' Rest and will make its success a priority for the coming years. As the intensity of the bicentennial wanes, a long-term management planning process for Travelers' Rest State Park will begin in 2005.

There is an opportunity to create a legacy at Travelers' Rest. This opportunity must not be missed.

Appendix I (*within Appendix C*)

Travelers' Rest State Park Program Philosophy

There are four major interpretive and educational themes at Travelers' Rest State Park; the significance of the site to Lewis and Clark Expedition during its stays here in 1805 and 1806; The significance to the variety of Native American tribes who utilized the area as a campsite and crossroads for centuries; the European settlement of the area in the wake of the Lewis and Clark journey; and the natural history of the area, which was critical to the success and survival for indigenous people, Lewis and Clark and the pioneers. Each of these themes can be told in the context of those days in 1805 and 1806 when the explorers and their party chose the banks of "Travellers Rest" (now Lolo) Creek as a place of rest and preparation.

Programs at Travelers' Rest State Park will be:

- Historically accurate and balanced. Much of history is open to interpretation. Our programs will tell more than one interpretation of the history of this area.
- Multi-disciplinary. Opportunities abound for visitors to learn about history, geology, botany, biology, ecology, astronomy, language arts, geography, social studies, archaeology, traditional skills and crafts, mathematics, and many other subjects. Our programs will embrace these disciplines with historical, traditional, and experimental interpretation and education techniques.
- Multi-faceted. Signs, brochures, living history, live demonstration, reenactments, guided tours, and technologically enhanced interpretive tools will all be employed.
- Low-impact. We believe in letting the land tell the story wherever possible. The intimacy between the land and the people was critical for the Native Americans, the Lewis and Clark Expedition, and the Euro-American settlers who followed. Our programs will foster that intimacy with our contemporary visitors.
- Dynamic. In order to sustain our operation, we will create an atmosphere that makes us a destination for tourists and residents alike. We will interpret the many layers of history and culture in this area, thereby encouraging visitors to return to learn more of how these layers are interwoven, how they have defined our past and how they may affect our future.

We believe in establishing Travelers' Rest State Park as an important economic, aesthetic, educational and recreational benefit to Lolo and the surrounding area.

Appendix II (*within Appendix C*)

TRAVELERS' REST LOLO, MONTANA

Management Agreement

This Agreement (hereinafter called the Agreement), entered into this 21st day of March, between the State of Montana, DEPARTMENT OF FISH, WILDLIFE & PARKS, (hereinafter called the Department) whose main address is 1420 East Sixth Avenue, P. O. Box 200701, Helena, Montana 59620-0701 and MONTANA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (hereinafter called MCDC), whose address is 103 E. Main, Missoula, Montana 59802.

RECITALS

The Department will own and control certain real property (hereinafter referred to as the SITE), that is contained within the Lolo Trail National Historic Landmark and believed to be a portion of the historic Travelers' Rest site, located in Missoula County near the town of Lolo, Montana and more particularly described in Attachment A, incorporated herein by this reference. The Site will be transferred from a private foundation (private ownership) to the Department (public ownership) via deed transfer.

The Site is approximately 15 acres in size and located on the southern edge of Lolo, Montana. Access to the site is gained from Highway 93 and then Mormon Creek Road. The legal description of the site is as follows; Township 12 North, Range 20 West, Section 34, Lots 1 and 14 of the Van Ostrand Addition, a platted subdivision recorded in County records 79-133, Micro Book 144, page 1109, according to the official records in Missoula County, Montana.

In addition to the property, the existing buildings on the site will be included in the transfer to the Department. These include a house, sheds, garages, a trailer, and associated outbuildings.

Management, maintenance, operation, and occupancy of the buildings will be done pursuant to this agreement.

Montana Community Development Corporation (MCDC) is a private non-profit 501(C)(3) organization incorporated in the State of Montana and located in Missoula, Montana. Its mission is to develop the economy and sustain the communities of western Montana. MCDC established the Lolo Economic Development Initiative and its Travelers' Rest Preservation Project in 1999. Through these efforts, and with the sustained assistance of key local, state, federal, and tribal community partners, MCDC facilitated acquisition of an historically-significant property believed to be at the heart of the Travelers' Rest site.

MCDC is in the process of creating an independent 501(C)(3) corporation, tentatively named Travelers' Rest Community Corporation, to preserve and protect the Site. The anticipated date of incorporation and operation is on or about June 30, 2001. All funds, contracts, and obligations of MCDC related to the Site, including this agreement, will be assigned and assumed by the third-party corporation at that time. MCDC anticipates providing fiscal management services to the new corporation.

MCDC will work with these key community partners to develop and implement the management/interpretive plan for the site that will compliment the provisions of this Agreement. Key community partners include; the Travelers' Rest Chapter of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation; Missoula County; the community of Lolo through the Lolo Community Council; the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes; the U.S. Forest Service; the National Park Service; the National Trust for Historic Preservation; and Montana Department of Fish Wildlife and Parks Region 2 Office. The community partners shall work together in their goal to develop and implement management and interpretation of the site in two distinct phases:

- 1) Short-term, 18 to 24 months – allowing for an historic, cultural, and natural resource study and the development of long-term management/interpretative plan; supervised public access to the site will occur during this period.

- 2) Long term - development and implementation of a long-term management/interpretative plan, approved by and coordinated with the Department.

The Department, through its Parks Division, has the authority and ability to accept donations of properties which are significant cultural, historical, and/or archaeological resources via sections 23-1-101 and 23-1-102, MCA. The Department has the authority to enter into cooperative agreements involving other local, state, or federal agencies via section 23-1-107, MCA.

The Site will complement other recognized Montana sites managed by the Department that were significant to the Lewis & Clark Expedition. These include Giant Springs, Headwaters, Clark's Lookout, and Beaverhead Rock State Parks.

MCDC will manage, maintain, and operate the Site pursuant to the local, state, and federal laws and standards outlined and referenced in this Agreement.

AGREEMENT

In consideration of the mutual promises, terms, and provisions of this agreement, the parties agree to the terms and provisions set forth below:

1. PURPOSE: The purpose of this agreement is to establish responsibilities for maintenance and operation of the Site with MCDC for the preservation and protection of the historic resource and the use and benefit of the public, according to the terms and conditions outlined in this agreement.
2. TERM: This agreement will remain in full force and effect for a term of March 20, 2001 until September 30, 2006.
3. DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE:
 - a. Legal description and map of the property known as Travelers' Rest (Attachment A).
4. OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE: MCDC agrees to operate the Site under the following terms and conditions:

- A. Operation. (1) MCDC and its successor corporation shall be bound by the short-term and long-term management/interpretive plans referenced above. These plans shall be developed and implemented by the community partners, approved by and coordinated with the Department. (2) The Site will be operated and maintained as a public Cultural and Historical Landmark Site, providing for general public use of the premises and facilities at no cost to the Department. Public use may be limited or restricted as necessary to accommodate the historic, cultural and natural resource study and the development of adequate public facilities. MCDC agrees to abide by all applicable local, state and federal laws, regulations, policies and standards regarding the cultural and historic nature of the site. (3) All activities, including public use restrictions or closures, concerning the site will be coordinated between the Department and MCDC, or its' assignee. (4) All operational, personnel, maintenance, and development cost will be the responsibility of MCDC. These costs may include, but are not limited to, all interpretation, site staffing, initial site development, maintenance, and related costs associated with the Site. The Department may participate and cooperate in the future with financial obligations associated with the site should funding become available. This Agreement however, shall not obligate the Department to any financial contributions for the Site.
- B. Repair and Maintenance. MCDC, or its assignee, will maintain the site in good repair and in a clean and safe condition at no cost to the Department. Facilities that can no longer be maintained in good condition shall be promptly replaced by MCDC via consultation with the Department. All improvements and additions, including but not limited to benches, tables, and kiosks, shall first be approved by the Department. If MCDC neglects or refuses to keep the site and facilities in good repair, the Department may, at its option, perform such maintenance or repairs as needed and invoice MCDC for the work. MCDC shall promptly reimburse the Department for the cost of doing such repairs; provided that the Department will first give MCDC at least fifteen (15) days written notice of required maintenance and repairs so that MCDC may themselves perform the necessary maintenance or repairs.
- C. Use of Buildings. MCDC or its successor corporation shall not permit or shall not occupy the house, mobile home, or outbuildings as a residence. Additionally, MCDC

- or its successor corporation shall not permit or shall not use the house or outbuildings as a storage area for any property. The house and outbuildings may be used as a place for meetings, special events, small library, or some other similar purpose as approved in advance by the Department.
- D. Fees. (1) MCDC, or its' successor, may collect fees at the site for entry, special events, and related programs. Any fees charged shall be commensurate with the Department's Parks Biennial Fee Rule. (2) Entry fees may not be charged until such time as improvements are made to the site such as restrooms, interpretive signs, or other structures that will add to the visitor enjoyment and enhance visitor understanding of the significance of the Site. (3) At such time in the future when fees may be charged for entry to the Site, the State Parks Passport shall be honored for admission. (4) All fees collected at the site shall be deposited into an account managed by MCDC, or its' successor, and used for the maintenance and operation of the Site. All account and records shall be kept and managed per Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP).
- E. Utilities. All utilities shall be paid by MCDC.
- F. Weeds. MCDC shall control weeds in accordance with Missoula County's and the Department's weed control plans.
- G. Signs. MCDC may erect signs or distribute brochures whose design and content is first reviewed and approved by the Department. Signs are required to acknowledge the contribution of the Department before they will be approved. The Department has the right to remove any signs that aren't first reviewed and approved.
- H. Trash Removal. MCDC will arrange for prompt removal to the nearest Montana Department of Health and Environmental Sciences approved disposal area all rubbish, waste, and garbage generated at the site.
- I. Rules and Regulations. MCDC will enforce or cause to be enforced on the premises the public use regulations of Missoula County, the Department, and other applicable laws and regulations.
- J. Security. MCDC will provide security at the Site.
- K. Insurance. MCDC or its assigns shall maintain for the duration of the contract, at its cost and expense, insurance against claims for injuries to persons or damages to

property, which may arise from or in connection with the performance of this Agreement or other subcontractors, their agents, employees, representatives, or assigns. This insurance shall cover such claims as may be caused by any willful or negligent acts or omissions on the part of MCDC or its agents and employees. The State of Montana, Department of FWP shall be named as a co-insured party on the policy.

- L. Certificate of Insurance. All certificates and endorsements are to be received by the state prior to the provision of a service. The state reserves the right to require complete copies of insurance policies at all times.
5. NON-DISCRIMINATION. MCDC will not discriminate against any individual or group because of race, color, religious creed, political ideas, sex, age, marital status, physical, or mental handicap, national origin, or ancestry in its operation or administration of the Site. MCDC will comply with all laws pertaining to the Equal Employment Opportunity Act and the Fair Labor Standards Act.
6. ASSIGNMENT. MCDC may assign this Agreement, with the Department's approval, in its entirety to a local non-profit 501 (c)(3) corporation to be formed by MCDC by the anticipated date of June 30, 2001. The mission and purpose of this corporation shall be the protection and public benefit of the Site. If this agreement is not assigned to a local non-profit 501 (c)(3) corporation, MCDC agrees to abide by this agreement until such time as the corporation is formed. Notwithstanding this provision, MCDC may not assign this agreement, in whole or in part, to any person or entity without the written approval of the Department.
7. REMEDIES. If MCDC defaults in the performance of any term or condition of this agreement, or otherwise violates any provision hereof, the Department may give MCDC written notice of such default or violation, after which MCDC will have 30 days to cure the default or violation. To constitute a notice under this paragraph, the notice shall indicate that it is given pursuant to this paragraph. If MCDC fails to cure the default or violation within this 30-day period, the Department may, at its option, terminate this agreement, commence suit for breach of this agreement, or seek any other remedy available to it under the law.

8. WAIVER. MCDC waives all claims and recourse against the Department or the State of Montana including the right to contribution for loss or damage to persons at the Site arising from, growing out of, or in any way connected with or incident to this agreement, except claims arising from the sole negligence or willful misconduct of the Department, its officers, its agents and employees.
9. INDEMNITY. MCDC and its successor, agrees to protect, defend, and save the state, its elected and appointed officials, agents, and employees, while acting within the scope of their duties as such, harmless from and against all claims, demands, causes of action of any kind or character, including the cost of defense thereof, arising in favor of MCDC's and its successor's employees or third parties on account of bodily or personal injuries, death, or damage to property arising out of services performed or omissions of services or in any way resulting from the acts of omissions of MCDC and/or its agents, employees, representatives, assigns, subcontractors, under this agreement.
10. LIAISON. The Department designates its Region Two Supervisor (or designee) to act as liaison between the Department and MCDC for the operation of this agreement. MCDC designates its Project Manager to act as liaison between MCDC and the Department for the operation of this agreement.
11. MODIFICATIONS. This document constitutes the sole and entire agreement between the parties. No statements, promises or inducements made by either party which are not contained in this agreement are valid or binding unless evidenced in writing and signed by both parties.
12. RESERVATIONS. The Department reserves all existing and future rights and interests associated with the property, beyond those specifically granted by this agreement.

Signed: /s/ Dated: 3/21/01
M. Jeff Hagener,
Director, Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

Approved as to legal: /s/ Dated: 3/20/01

Signed: /s/ Dated: 3-26-01

Montana Community Development Corporation

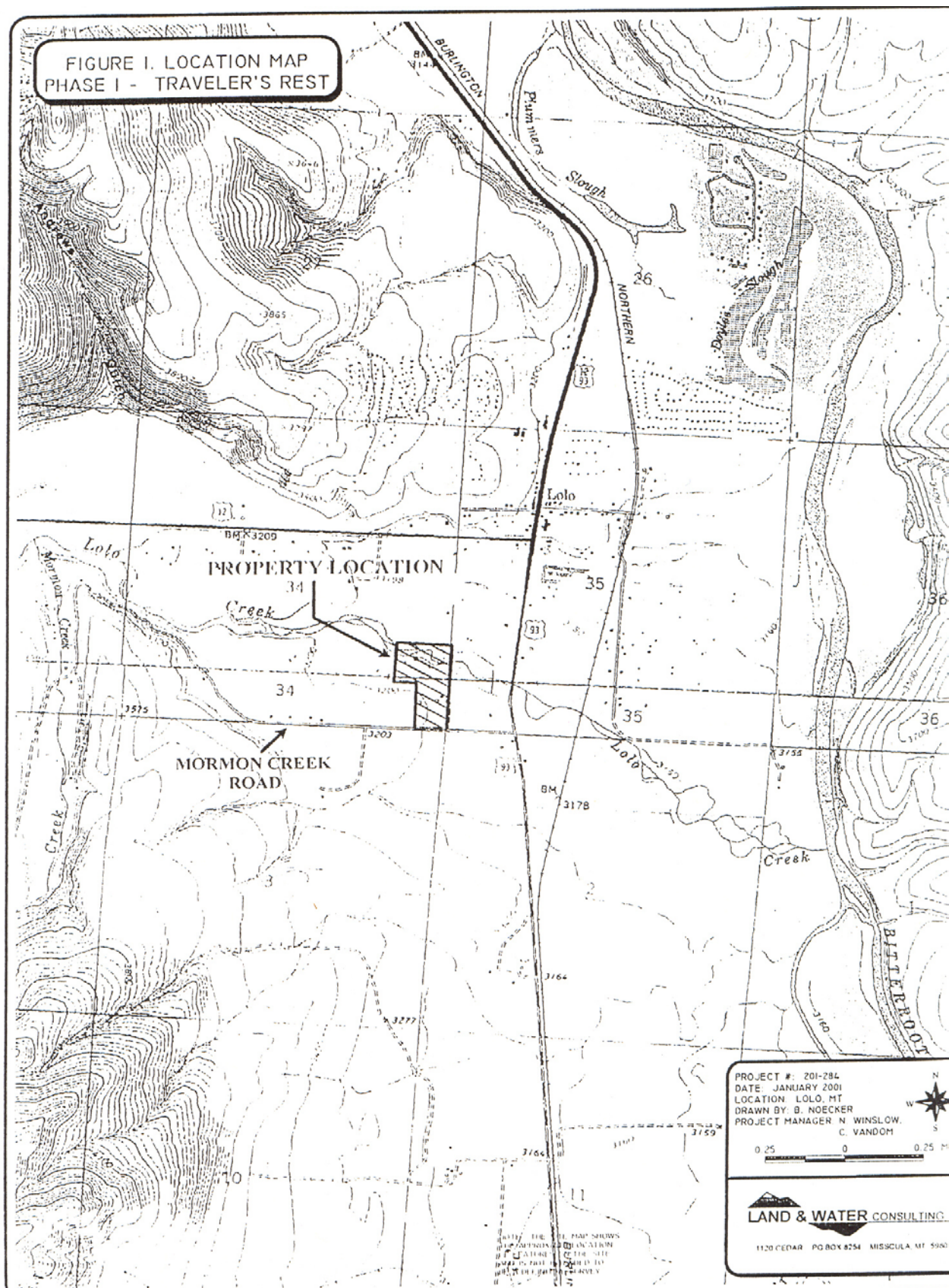
Position: _____

Attachments;

Attachment A – plat of site.

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Attachment A. Site location (for Appendix II, within Appendix C)



Appendix III (*within Appendix C*)

Funding Objectives

Travelers' Rest Preservation and Heritage Association
Capital Campaign Funding Priorities

INTERPRETATION NEEDS

Project	Estimated Amount	Time Priority	Need Priority
Lewis & Clark interpretative program development and implementation	\$130,000	1	1
Native American interpretative program development and implementation	130,000	1	1
European settlement and agriculture interpretive program development and implementation	20,000	3	2
Archeology interpretation program development and implementation	20,000	3	3
Total Interpretation needs	\$300,000		

INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS

Project Description	Estimated Amount	Time Priority	Need Priority
Facility improvements	\$ 50,000	1	1
Entrance & directional signage	10,000	1	1
Park grounds maintenance equipment	25,000	2	2
Park security and safety measures	25,000	2	2
Fencing	15,000	2	2
Water well for restrooms and drinking fountain	25,000	2	2
Total Infrastructure Needs	\$150,000		

PARK AMBIENCE & VISITOR COMFORT NEEDS

Project Description	Estimated Amount	Time Priority	Need Priority
Trail and bridge development and construction	\$ 90,000	1	1
Landscape and site design	30,000	1	1
Visitor amenities (parking, restrooms, drain field, picnic areas, etc)	200,000	1	1
Site landscaping and native vegetation restoration	50,000	2	2
Total Ambience and Visitor Comfort Needs	\$370,000		

OUTREACH DEVELOPMENT & OTHER

Project Description	Estimated Amount	Time Priority	Need Priority
Technology to support multi-media program and develop interpretive outreach	\$ 60,000	2	2
Develop community outreach and educational program	20,000	3	3
Campaign Costs	50,000	3	3
Contingency	50,000	3	3
Total Outreach and Other Needs	\$180,000		

Time Priority Legend:

- 1 = 2003 Funding Priority
- 2 = 2004 or early 2005 Funding Priority
- 3 = late 2005 or after Funding Priority

Need Priority Legend:

- 1 = Necessary for short and long-term park success
- 2 = Important for short-term park success, Necessary for long-term park success
- 3 = Important for short and long-term park success